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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/657,682	09/08/2003	Garry Tsaur		1229
29745	7590	08/25/2005		EXAMINER
JOE NIEH 18760 E. AMAR ROAD #204 WALNUT, CA 91789			EVANS, CHIVONNE LAURIE	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3761	

DATE MAILED: 08/25/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Thtn

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/657,682	TSAUR, GARRY	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Chivonne L. Evans	3761	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

**A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.**

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 September 2003.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims 1-20

- 4) Claim(s) 1-2, 4 and 5 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) 3 and 6-20 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1, 2, 4, 5 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) 1-20 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 08 September 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election with traverse of Figure 1 in the reply filed on July 20, 2005 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that an addition of opening means and positioning applicator tip on the close and/ or open side of the tube does not separate Figures 2, 3, and 4 from the elected species, Figure 1. This is not found persuasive because the hollow tube with the applicator tip affixed to the open end of the tube, of Figure 1, may contain fluid without said opening means, therefore dispersing the fluid via the open portion of the tube into the applicator. By adding an opening or changing the position of the applicator tip from the open to close end or both, fluid may be added or emptied into the hollow tube via the said opening, and the means for dispersing of fluid would be altered, therefore, creating an independent search of the non-elected species for the examiner.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

2. Claims 3, and 6-20 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected species, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Applicant timely traversed the restriction (election) requirement in the reply filed on July 20, 2005.

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1,2, 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Bennington (3958571). Bennington teaches a swab applicator comprising an elongated hollow tube open at end with absorbent secured thereto, and an enclosed end adjacent to the open end. The applicator contains a solution to be delivered within the hollow tube. (Column 1, lines 52-64).

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Foster et al (3661666) and Rainin (5599330) are both applicators relevant to the application.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chivonne L. Evans whose telephone number is 571-272-8686. The examiner can normally be reached on between 6:30-3:30, Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tatyana Zalukaeva can be reached on 571-272-1115. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 3761

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Chivonne L Evans
Examiner
Art Unit 3761

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TATYANA ZALUKAEVA
PRIMARY EXAMINER